Excavating MG 5 Star Hotel Site

By Thompson Marango May 31, 2017 0

MG Enterprise Chairman, Ken Wong and Minister of Finance, Gaetan Pikioune popping champagne to mark the excavation ceremony as Minister Napat and Minister Seule, CCECC General Manager, Yang Song and MG Global Enterprise Limited CEO Patrick Li and invited guests looks on at the excavation ceremony.
By Thompson Marango

Minister of Finance and Economic Management, Gaetan Pikioune, officiated yesterday morning a ceremony to kick-start excavation works to prepared the site where what is likely to be Vanuatu's first five star hotel will be constructed.

The site, opposite the Ministry of Education and the rocky slope opposite Daily Post is where the MG Global 5 Star Hotel and the MG CBD Town will be erected after the excavation.

Winners of the tender to excavate, China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC) will commence work to clear the area before construction starts before the end of this year.

"Today marks yet the beginning of what will be a component of the endeavour that will move Vanuatu to new horizons," said the Chairman of MG Global Enterprise, Ken Wong during the excavation ceremony.

Mr Wong said the excavation is the first phase of this project which will be followed by the ground breaking ceremony to start the construction works hopefully before the end of this year.

The project includes the MG Sky Hotel and MG CBD Tower that will house the MG Commerce Bank.

Wong told invited guests that the project will fall in line with another significant infrastructure project which is the upgrade of the Bauerfield International Airport to a standard that can accommodate direct flights from China.

"When completed and fully operational, the project will fundamentally alter Vanuatu's tourism landscape.

"In fact, when the international airport upgrade is completed MG will organize the first direct flights from Guangdong Province in China to Vanuatu to boost the country's economy."

In respond the Minister of Finance, Gaetan Pikinoune, talked about the importance of tourism and the government's target of reaching 1 million tourists per year.

Minister Pikioune said it is important that industries must support the government to meet its target.

He said it is the government's plan to ensure there are direct flights linking Vanuatu with China and Asia.

Minister of Public Utilities and Infrastructure, Jotham Napat, joined the Finance Minister to stress that Tourism is the backbone of the economy.

Napat said there is a lot of emphasis to market Vanuatu as a destination and recommends the Ministry of Tourism for the work they are doing.

He said the Government through the Ministry of Infrastructure recognizes the efforts of the Ministry of Tourism.

"For that reason, the government is already engaged in linking tourism and infrastructure," said Napat.

"That is why the airport upgrade that we have already engaged in, we believe will facilitate and impound the bridge in the coming years.

"Especially tourists from Asia."

He thanked MG for choosing Vanuatu as the destination where they can actually build such an investment so that it caters for tourists around Asia and even globally.

"The government is behind this investment, is behind this project because we believe that tourism is backbone of the country's economy.

"I know there is a lot of risks associated with this investment, but I believe that through the Ministry of Tourism, the government is always behind you and to support you with this type of investment.

"Congratulation MG for the investment and what it will bring into the country, particularly to its economy, job opportunities that it will create.

"The five star hotel would probably be the first one in Vanuatu.

"For CCECC, your company has proven to the government that you have the capacity and the capability of building these type of infrastructures.

"I've seen from the roads, we have seen from some of the projects that you have already undertaken.

"On behalf of the government congratulation CCECC for winning the contract to build the 5 star hotel in Vanuatu.

"To us who will benefit from this project, especially other tourism stakeholders, the government is investing in infrastructures basically to facilitate tourism business to come to Vanuatu.

"My ministry will negotiate with the government of China an air service agreement so that we can get tourists out of Asia to Vanuatu.

"It is likely that we will sign this air service agreement before the end of this year.

"It will promote the economy and at the same time facilitate tourists from Asia.

"I will be travelling to New Caledonia to negotiate with the French Government for a direct flight from New Caledonia to Tanna and Pekoa.

"These are part of the infrastructure development that the government is already engaged in."

The Infrastructure Minister said more tourists, means more employment that will boost the country's economy.

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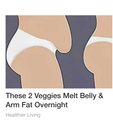
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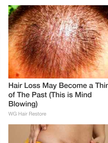
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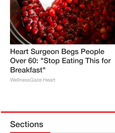
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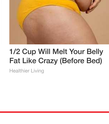
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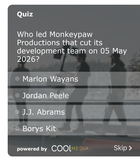

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